Italian Sausage: Christmas Sausage or Bandièra

The sausage gets its name from the colors of the Italian Flag [Green-White-Red], which are also the traditional colors of Christmas.

U.S.	Ingredient	Metric	Percent
5.5 lb.	Pork	2500.0 g	-93.72
1 cup	Mozzarella, diced*	175.0 g	97.14
3/4 cup	Roma tomatoes, seeded	170.0 g	65.71
2/3 cup	Sun dried tomatoes	115.0 g	37.14
¹⁄₄ cup	Ice water	65.0 ml	34.29
1/3 cup	Romano cheese, grated	60.0 g	20.97
5 tsp.	Salt	36.7 g	14.29
2 tbsp.	Sucrose	25.0 g	5.14
6 tbsp.	Basil, fresh	9.0 g	4.00
2 tsp.	Pepper, black, coarse	7.0 g	4.00
1¼ tsp.	MSG	7.0 g	3.43
2 tsp.	Garlic, powdered	6.0 g	3.89
1 tsp.	Cure#1	6.8 g	0.86
⅓ tsp.	Citric acid	1.5 g	0.00
	35mm hog casings		



Note: Use metric weight & volume measurement for better control of ingredients. The U.S. measurements are an approximation of the metric measurements.

Method:

- 1. Keep meat cold (40°F/4°C) at all times. Note: ratio of lean to fat should be about 70%: 30%. Grind meat through medium grinder [3/8-inch] plate.
- 2. Dice the mozzarella into corn size pieces, reserve and chill very well.
- 3. Chop the sun-dried tomatoes to a size similar to the cheese; reserve.
- 4. Seed and chop the Roma/San Marzano tomatoes to a similar size.
- 5. Grate the Romano cheese and reserve.
- 6. Coarsely chop the basil
- 7. Return all to the refrigerator while mixing spices.
- 8. Add the sugar, salt, MSG, cure, spices, citric acid and water; work all well into meat.
- 9. Add the Romano cheese, tomatoes and basil, mixing in well; then add the chilled mozzarella and mix to disperse it well throughout the paste.
- 10. Stuff into well-rinsed sausage casings (35 mm size) and refrigerate. Eat within 5 days or vacuum pack and freeze

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^{6.3} lb. **←**Totals **→** 2.9 Kg

^{*} Use high-melting point mozzarella cheese